

**Elaine Farrell**

Kilshanvy, Tuam, Co. Galway, H54 WF89

**To:**

An Coimisiún Pleanála

**Subject:** Shancloon Wind Farm PAX07.323699

### **Background**

I have lived in Kilshanvy all my life and care for my elderly mother, Evelyn, who is confined to her home due to reduced mobility. Our home and garden are her only amenities. We value the peace, quiet, and strong sense of community that defines this area.

### **Health and Well-being**

The proposed turbines will severely impact our health and quality of life. Noise, including low-frequency sound, will disturb our home environment and worsen stress levels. The intense noise generated during piling for turbine foundations will cause significant and prolonged disruption to residents. For my mother, who cannot leave the house, this intrusion will be devastating. Her mental well-being depends on the tranquility of her surroundings, which this development will destroy. The developer has ignored these human impacts, despite obligations under the 2019 Draft Wind Energy Development Guidelines (DWEDG) to assess and mitigate noise and health risks.

### **Visual and Community Impact**

All eleven turbines will be visible from Kilshanvy, overwhelming the rural landscape and erasing the views we cherish. This is contrary to the Galway County Development Plan 2022–2028, which seeks to protect scenic landscapes and rural character. The scale of these 180 m turbines makes this location wholly unsuitable for such development.

### **Environmental Concerns**

Replacing peat bogs with concrete foundations will increase flooding risk and destroy vital carbon sinks. Wildlife and birds, including species common in this area, will be displaced or killed. These impacts conflict with biodiversity protection policies in the County Development Plan and the Local Authority Renewable Energy Strategy (LARES).

### **Community Engagement Failure**

RWE has not meaningfully engaged with residents. We received only letters through the letterbox and there was no knock on the door to talk to us. This falls far short of wind energy development guidelines on requirements for proactive and inclusive consultation.

**Other Concerns**

We are also worried about potential electromagnetic emissions from turbine infrastructure, the risk of traffic accidents caused by the thousands of trucks on our narrow local roads.

**Request**

This proposal breaches key planning policies, ignores the 2019 Draft Wind Energy Development Guideline requirements, threatens health, landscape, biodiversity and community wellbeing.

I respectfully ask An Coimisiún Pleanála to refuse permission for the Shancloon Wind Farm.

**Signed:**

Elaine Farrell

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